

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-000697/25
to the Commission
Piotr Müller (ECR)
(14 February 2025)**

Subject: A Competitiveness Compass for the EU — the Commission's plans for public procurement

The document entitled 'A Competitiveness Compass for the EU', published by the Commission, refers among other things to public procurement.

It is steeped in ideologically driven propaganda aimed at promoting green ideology, even in public procurement. In this document, the Commission emphasises the importance of integrating environmental aspects into public procurement processes, indicating their potential to promote sustainable products and services and to support the EU's green transition.

The document promotes these practices by encouraging public institutions to give preferential treatment to goods and services with a reduced environmental impact throughout their life cycle.

In view of the planned revision of the public procurement directives, could the Commission please answer the following:

1. Does the Commission intend to make Green Public Procurement (GPP) mandatory for certain categories of public procurement?
2. How does the Commission intend to reconcile the promotion of Green Public Procurement with the principle of free competition and the free choice of the best products and services, regardless of their ideological characteristics?
3. Is the Commission not concerned that favouring specific categories of procurement could lead to reduced competition and increased costs for the public sector?

Submitted: 14.2.2025

**Answer given by Executive Vice-President Séjourné on behalf of the European Commission
(23 April 2025)**

The Commission promotes a best price-quality approach to public purchases which takes into account the environmental impact and externalities of the purchase.

Procuring green products at a reasonable price means creating added value for the community by reducing environmental impact. It promotes the competitiveness of EU businesses, which are often leaders in sustainable solutions.

A broad array of recent EU legislation already makes certain forms of green public procurement (GPP) mandatory or lays the basis for the EU to adopt minimum harmonised GPP requirements, taking into account several elements including their economic feasibility.

This is the case, for instance, for the Clean Vehicles Directive ⁽¹⁾ (setting Member States targets for the purchase of low-emission vehicles), the Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation ⁽²⁾ (regulating how product specific GPP requirements will be adopted at EU level), or the Energy Efficiency Directive ⁽³⁾ (requiring the application of the energy efficiency first principle to all procurements).

In view of the upcoming public procurement reform, the Commission will reflect on how to clarify, simplify and mainstream the use of sustainability requirements.

⁽¹⁾ Directive (EU) 2019/1161 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 June 2019 amending Directive 2009/33/EC on the promotion of clean and energy-efficient road transport vehicles.

⁽²⁾ Regulation (EU) 2024/1781 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 June 2024 establishing a framework for the setting of ecodesign requirements for sustainable products, amending Directive (EU) 2020/1828 and Regulation (EU) 2023/1542 and repealing Directive 2009/125/EC.

⁽³⁾ Directive (EU) 2023/1791 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 September 2023 on energy efficiency and amending Regulation (EU) 2023/955 (recast).